

REMARKS

Please consider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. The claim amendments are fully supported by the specification. For example, a thermally stable shearing element is disclosed in paragraphs [0052] and [0053] of the specification. Accordingly, none of the amendments constitute new matter. This amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance.

If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 05516/147002).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/19/04

Jonathan P. Osha 2-J 48,885
for Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986
OSHA & MAY L.L.P.
One Houston Center, Suite 2800
1221 McKinney Street
Houston, TX 77010
Telephone: (713) 228-8600
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778

78554_1.DOC